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SUBJECT GROUP 8000 - 8199 GENERAL ORDNANCE MATERIAL AMMUNITION AND
EXPLOSIVES

SUBGROUP 8010 - AMMUNITION AND EXPLOSIVES

Ref: (a) U.S. NAVY REGULATIONS
(b) NAVSEA OP 5
(c) OPNAVINST 8020.14 series
(d) NAVSEA OP 4

8010.1 General

a. Ordnance Facilities. Atlantic Ordnance Command (LANTORDCOM) is located at Naval Weapons Station (WPNSTA), Yorktown and is the ordnance facility that supports the ammunition requirements of activities and fleet units in the Mid-Atlantic Region. It is configured to store and transfer explosives to and from units in a safe and expedient manner. Accordingly, it is highly encouraged that complete inventory transfers of ammunition and explosives be conducted at WPNSTA Yorktown under the auspices of LANTORDCOM.

(1) One tug is available to assist ships scheduled pier side at WPNSTA Yorktown in docking/undocking. Other tug assistance, when available, may be provided by NAVSTA Norfolk Port Operations.

(2) Unless there exists an emergent danger to life or property, transit to and from Yorktown requiring the opening of the Coleman Bridge during the hours of 0600-0800 and 1600-1800 Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays, is prohibited.

(3) Within the constraints of bridge opening and tidal considerations, ships shall not remain alongside the pier after completion of on/off loading operations due to the usual presence of other large quantities of high explosives. Stowage in proper stowage spaces aboard ship shall be completed prior to pier side departure.

b. Ammunition Transfers. Ammunition transfers in limited quantities may be performed in accordance with CNO Waivers at the below listed activities:

(1) NAVSTA Norfolk

(2) NAVPHIBASE Little Creek

(3) NAVSHIPYD Norfolk - See also NAVSHIPYDINST 5400.1 series Information to Ships.

c. Arrangements. All ordnance transfers for the activities listed in Section 8010.1 b shall be arranged through the LANTORDCOM Detachment Sewells Point (see Section 8011 for procedure).

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d. HERO Restrictions. Personnel involved in ordnance operations shall follow all HERO regulations and use only intrinsically safe radios and cell phones.

8010.2 Responsibilities. References (a) and (b) define responsibility and authority for ordnance safety ashore in the Navy. The following summarize these policies as they pertain to facilities within the Hampton Roads Area.

a. LANTORDCOM serves as the area coordinator for all ordnance matters. Qualified Safety Loading Officers (SLO) are designated, in writing, in accordance with reference (b). SLO duties include supervising a particular ordnance handling operation/evolution. The SLO must remain present throughout the assigned ordnance handling operation/evolution.

b. NAVPHIBASE Little Creek is responsible for administration of the Regional Explosive Safety Program. Qualified Explosive Safety Officers (ESO) and Safety Observers (SO) are designated, in writing, in accordance with reference (b).

c. Installation Commander of the Shore Activity

(1) The Installation Commander of one of the shore activities listed in paragraph 8010.1b serves as host to explosive evolutions conducted aboard the respective activities.

d. Commanding Officer of the Afloat Unit. The Commanding Officer of a commissioned ship or other craft that is at a pier or wharf that forms part of a naval shore activity or is in waters adjacent to a naval shore station must ensure compliance with safety regulations that concern ammunition and explosives in accordance with references (b) and (d). In addition, the Commanding Officer shall:

(1) Ensure the shipboard personnel who perform or supervise the handling or movement of ordnance and/or explosives are qualified and certified in accordance with the requirements of references (c) and (d).

(2) Assign at least one ESO and an appropriate number of assistants as defined in Chapter 12 of reference (b).

e. FISC Norfolk and PWC Norfolk:

(1) Ensure personnel that perform the handling or movement of ordnance and/or explosives are qualified and certified in accordance with the requirements of references (b) and (c).

(2) Provide ordnance-certified cranes, material handling equipment, and any other equipment required to accomplish ordnance handling operations in accordance with reference (b).

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f. Safety Loading Officer (SLO). LANTORDCOM or his/her designated representative designates the SLO in writing. Specifically:

(1) General responsibilities of the SLO are delineated in Article 12-9.1.1.a. of reference (b).

(2) The SLO will be qualified and certified in accordance with references (b) and (c).

(3) One SLO will be assigned to each ordnance handling evolution.

(4) The assigned SLO for a particular ordnance handling evolution will remain present continuously throughout the conduct of the assigned explosive evolution.

(5) The SLO is responsible for the direct supervision of an assigned explosive evolution and serves as the on-site representative of LANTORDCOM. The SLO is designated SUPERVISOR-IN-CHARGE of the assigned explosive evolution. The duty of the SLO in conjunction with the SO is to ensure the absolute safety of all personnel and equipment engaged in the assigned ordnance handling operation/evolution.

(6) In accordance with reference (b), the SLO has the inherent duty and the authority to stop any or all phases of operations involving the handling of ammunition and explosives at the site when unsafe conditions exist. This includes the authority to direct the handling ship and other ships in the vicinity to take whatever action is necessary to ensure safe handling conditions of the pier.

(7) The SLO shall conduct a pre-handling conference and safety inspection with the handling ship's Safety Officer and the assigned SO. Such an inspection is to include all areas and points where the ammunition will be in the open (i.e., not below deck or in a magazine) and the route over which the ammunition will be transferred. The inspection will include a check of any handling gear involved, presence of any other potentially hazardous operations, pier clearance as required, and establishment of the transient control (quantity distance) perimeter.

(8) The SLO is responsible for ensuring compliance with established Explosive Safety Quantity Distance (ESQD) arcs in order that proper bounds are set and maintained to preclude the presence or transit of non-essential personnel within the established arcs. The SLO and SO, in conjunction, are the definitive authorities on site for making the determination as to who is or is not "essential personnel" as defined in Appendix C of reference (b). Disputed issues are to be referred to the Explosive Safety Officer (Safety Manager) and local LANTORDCOM office for resolution. If necessary issues will be

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referred to NAVPHIBASE Little Creek, WPNSTA Yorktown and the installation commanding officer.

(9) The SLO will conduct inspection and certification of conveyance for transporting explosives in accordance with applicable directives.

g. NAVPHIBASE Little Creek or his/her designated representative designates Safety Observers (SO) in writing. Specifically:

(1) The general responsibilities of the SO are delineated in Article 12-9.1.1.b. of reference (b).

(2) The SO will be qualified and certified in accordance with references (b) and (c). The SO is considered the representative of NAVPHIBASE Little Creek.

(3) The SO shall be present continuously during ordnance movements to assure that safety requirements are satisfied and shall act proactively to eliminate any potential accident hazards that exist in operations under the SO's jurisdiction.

(4) The SO, in conjunction with the SLO, has the authority to stop any or all phases of operations involving the handling of ammunition or explosives when unsafe conditions exist.

(5) The SO will ensure inspection and certification of the conveyance for transporting explosives is conducted in accordance with applicable directives and will advise the SLO of necessary actions to correct noted deficiencies. The SLO will ensure all deficiencies are corrected prior to further movement of the conveyance.

(6) The SO shall accompany the SLO in the conduct of a pre-handling conference and safety inspection as defined above.

(7) The SO serves in such a manner as to continuously maintain a broad overview for the safety of a particular explosive evolution. In this capacity, the SO must remain apart from the activities of an explosive evolution. The SO will serve only in a non-participatory capacity, in order to maintain a constant vigil over the safety of the evolution as a whole. At no time will the SO serve as a handling supervisor or be assigned duties other than those specifically required of a SO.

h. All personnel involved in the evolution shall be qualified and certified in accordance with references (b) and (c). They are responsible for reading, understanding, and strictly observing all safety standards requirements and precautions applicable to their work or duty. They shall report promptly to their immediate supervisor any violation of explosive safety regulations or procedures.